# **University Linkages with the Middle East and North Africa**



Project Title	University Linkages with the Middle East and North Africa
Project Summary	Are you a graduate student interested in the Middle East/North Africa, or a career at the US Deptament of State, especially in the area of public diplomacy? If so, join us as we research & seek info on linkages between the U.S. and universitites in the region to further mutual understanding.
Country	United States
Country/Region of Focus	Middle East and North Africa

### **Project Description**

University partnerships between the United States and the Middle East and North Africa have been a constant throughout a history of challenging political and economic relationships. These linkages between institutions and academics provide opportunities for research and educational exchange across a range of issues and fields, leading us into the future, especially in science, technology and business developments. In order to design an initiative to strategically support these partnerships, the Bureau of Near East Affairs Press & Public Diplomacy would like to work with a virtual intern to research the existing university partnerships, their focus and level, to create a database, along with contacts with the U.S. universities. Analyzing the database and working with posts in the Middle East and North Africa, the intern will work with our office to consider options for strengthening and extending these partnerships to advance U.S. foreign policy goals. We will be looking for opportunities to create synergies within exchanges, perhaps boosting engagement in certain fields of policy priority, as well as sub-regional and cross-regional connections.

We will expose you to the work of State's public diplomacy officers, who manage academic projects and foster university partnerships where possible in the countries they are posted within.

#### **Required Skills or Interests**

Skill(s)

Analytical writing

Cultural diplomacy

Educational design

#### **Additional Information**

This is an excellent opportunity for someone who is interested in universities in the region, education linkages, and how the U.S. Dept. of State endeavors to bring the tertiary education communities together through scholarship and enhanced knowledge in participating universities.

## **Language Requirements**

#### Language Speaking Proficiency Reading Proficiency Importance

Arabic	Limited working proficiency Limited working proficiency Nice to Have
French	Limited working proficiency Limited working proficiency Nice to Have